THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, March 28, 1808.

TRIAL *of* GENERAL WHITELOCKE.

THE court-martial for this trial commenced on the 28th of January, 1808.

The commission, and the different articles of charge, being read, and the members of the court sworn, the Hon. Richard Ryder, judge advocate, addressed the court on the part of the prosecution. They were now met together on the most important occasion, probably, which ever occurred in the history of this country. The armies of this country destined for an attack on Buenos Ayres had been entrusted to the care of General Whitelocke, and he had failed in the attempt. He had failed with a great loss of his gallant troops. Not only so, by this failure our arms had suffered disgrace; we had incurred a diminution of military fame, which must ever be esteemed a national loss. Aggravated, therefore, as the circumstances of the case were, it was proper that they should become the subject of enquiry. The country had a right to know the causes which had given rise to this unexpected calamity. There was not a fact alleged against General Whitelocke which was not of a grave and serious nature; yet there was not one of them which was not founded on his own dispatches, so much so, that he might be content to lay the dispatches themselves before the court, as the evidence for the prosecution; General Whitelocke had, in fact, been his own accuser. He should follow the example of his predecessor in abstaining from any observations on that stage of the proceedings. The facts required no comment, they would speak for themselves; and his only wish was, that the ends of substantial justice might be attained.

The commission appointing Lieutenant-General Whitelocke commander in chief in South America; the different instructions sent out for the regulation of his conduct; and the dispatches sent by him to our Government at home, were then given in evidence.

The written evidence being concluded, it was proposed and agreed to, that instead of adducing evidence on each separate charge, the whole should be divided into two periods, the former comprehending the whole transactions and operations of the army down to the night immediately preceding the attack; and the latter embracing the day of the attack, and all the subsequent occurrences.

THE EVIDENCE.

The first witness called was Lieutenant-General Gower, the second in command. Having given an account of his arrival at Buenos Ayres, where, on the 29th of May, he joined the commander in chief; General Gower went on to give a narrative of the march of the advanced guard, under his command, from the morning of the 28th of May, when he marched from Ensenada, where the army landed, towards the heights. The advanced guard proceeded from the 28th of May to the morning of the 2d of July, holding occasional communications with the main body of the army, and never advancing to any considerable distance beyond it. On the morning of the 2d of July, however, General Gower received orders from the commander in chief to attempt discovering a pass which had been described over the Chuela, above the town of Buenos Ayres. If he found the pass he was to force it, and make good a lodgement in the suburbs of the town, or get into the town itself, and, if he could, open a communication with the navy. He was at the same time given to understand, that he was on his march to be joined by the 88th regiment, and that the commander in chief was to support him with the whole army. If he made a good lodgment in the suburbs of the town, he was to summon it to surrender; and if they demanded from him the terms General Whitelocke was willing to grant, he was to send them a copy of the terms which accompanied the orders delivered to him, being the only written orders which he had received, and were delivered to him by Lieutenant-Colonel Bourke.—(These orders were the same afterwards sent into the town, and required, among other things, the surrender of the civil authorities.)—In execution of these orders, General Gower marched about nine o'clock, and fell in with a considerable corps of cavalry belonging to the enemy, a portion of whom he forced down on the Chuela, and having driven them across it, ascertained the positive existence of that pass, and followed them across the ford. While occupied in getting four

pieces

pieces of cannon over the pass, Brigadier-General Craufurd, who was in advance, informed the witness that he saw a very large body of infantry, and a considerable body of artillery, apparently marching directly towards the same height, in the suburbs of Buenos Ayres, which the witness had previously pointed out to General Craufurd as the one which seemed, in the first instance, most eligible to go up. The brigadier-general requested permission to advance against it with his brigade, and finding that it was so late that the brigade under Brigadier-General Lumley, which was by that time very much exhausted, was not likely to be able to arrive at this point before dark, the witness ordered General Craufurd to advance.

On the second day of the trial, the examination of the same witness proceeded.—Before Brigadier-General Lumley could come up, General Craufurd charged the enemy's line with the bayonet, which succeeded so perfectly, that in a few minutes their infantry was completely routed, and ten pieces of cannon were in our possession. The witness then sent a general summons to the Spanish governor, and on his desiring to know what terms would be granted, sent him a copy of those which he had received from General Whitelocke. The answer was, that nothing remained for them but to die, and that they had still a sufficient number of brave soldiers, and brave commanders, to enable them to evince that determination. The witness, however, was not joined by the 28th regiment, nor was he at all supported by the main body of the army, which was on the opposite side of the river, and did not join him 'till next day.

On the third day, in answer to a question from General Whitelocke, the witness said, he considered the civil authorities of Buenos Ayres to have been the persons who caused the insurrection against General Beresford, and to be completely hostile to us; and it was generally understood, that the court of Audiensia had usurped nearly the whole power and authority of the country. He also considered the court of Audiensia a part of the civil authorities alluded to in the summons.

Next day, in answer to a question from Sir John Moore, whether the witness thought a material advantage might have arisen from the whole of the army passing the river, and attacking the enemy, on the 2d of June, the witness answered (the question having been objected to, but the objection afterwards waved), "I believe we should have carried Buenos Ayres. If there had been a force to support the impression made by the light battalion, we must have carried the place."

Questioned by Sir William Medows.

You were the second in command, were you consulted by the commander in chief on the mode of attack?

A.—I was. On the evening of the 3d, Lieutenant-General Whitelocke sent orders to me to come to his quarters. He then asked me, if I had any idea how the town should be attacked, and if I had put my ideas on paper? I answered that I had. He desired to see them.

Q.—Was there any considerable difference between your plan and that adopted by Lieutenant-General Whitelocke?

A.—Yes. Having been on my march, before I knew that the 40th regiment of foot, and 17th light dragoons would not be there, I included them also.

Q.—Was there any other difference?

A.—My first idea was a deployment from a central point, but by the plan adopted, the columns were to march from the positions respectively occupied by them. The basis of the plan adopted was very much the same with that which I proposed. There were two places of retreat agreed on, to which, in case of a failure in the attack, the unsuccessful columns were to retire. From the examination of the witness by the court, however, it appeared that both of these positions were in the hands of the enemy, and must first be carried before they could serve as points of retreat.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bourke, quarter-master general of the forces, was the second witness called. He stated the purport of his conversation with General Gower on the morning of the 2d of June to be this—that on the major-general's expressing his dissatisfaction with the orders he had received to proceed to cross the Chuela, the witness said he would represent the matter to the lieutenant-general, and thought it likely that he would move with the whole army to his support; but on this subject he could speak with no certainty, as the lieutenant-general had not communicated to him whether he intended to march that day or not. The witness communicated this conversation to the lieutenant-general, who first proposed sending a single regiment, but a short time afterwards ordered the whole army to march. About two o'clock, as they were moving by two farm-houses, the lieutenant-general proposed to halt for the day. The witness reminded him of the conversation he had with the major-general that morning, and expressed his conviction that, unless ordered to halt, he would cross the river, and proceed to the heights westward of the town. The lieutenant-general had not decided whether he would halt or not; at length when Sir Samuel Auchmuty came up, to whom he referred the question, Sir Samuel Auchmuty immediately decided for halting, stating that there was a large quantity of sheep in the meadows, and fire and wood to dress the meat.

On Friday, February 5, Brigadier-General Crauford was examined. He first described the inconvenience attached to the troops,

troops, in consequence of leaving their camp kettles at Monte Video, after landing at Ensenada on the 28th. Witness commanded part of the advanced corps under General Gower, and occupied the heights of Reduction. On the 2d of July he crossed the river Chuela, and saw 500 of the enemy's horse through a fence. The first notice they had of the enemy was a shot from a gun 500 yards distant. The Spanish general and staff appeared on the great road which led to the slaughtering-house. Witness immediately engaged them with his brigade, put them to flight, and took twelve pieces of cannon. While forming the brigade, with intention to continue the pursuit, he received orders to fall back. He requested permission to follow the enemy, and received a peremptory order from General Gower to retreat. He was of opinion that the town might have been taken that evening, had he been allowed to proceed. After this action the remainder of the advanced corps under General Gower and General Lumley arrived. After a verbal summons to General Liniers to surrender the town, General Whitelocke took General Crauford aside, in the court-yard of White's house, and said, he felt so much reluctance at making the attack, that he was resolved to send a second summons. General Crauford gave his opinion, that it was better not to send another summons, as it would answer no good purpose, but imply a want of confidence on the part of the British. On the morning of the 4th the brigade officers met to consult on the attack on the town, and it was resolved to commence the attack at day-break on the 5th; part of the orders issued preparatory to the attack was, that the troops should be provided with tools and implements for breaking open houses. It did not appear by General Craufurd's evidence that General Whitelocke appointed any place for his station during the attack. General Lumley next detailed the operations of the army after the landing of the troops at Baragon. The march from Baragon was through a swamp; the troops sunk up to the middle in some places, and found it difficult to rise. On the morning of the 4th the general pointed out to the officers his plan for besieging the town. They were told, the fire from the centre would be the signal to commence the attack, and General Lumley was ordered not to press with his brigade towards the right, to avoid being exposed to the fire of our guns. General Lumley's evidence closed on Tuesday the 9th.

Lieutenant-colonel Lloyd, of the 17th light dragoons, was examined relative to the strength of his regiment, and he proved that a considerable quantity of cavalry equipments were lost when the army left Monte Video. Brigadier-General Sir S. Auchmuty described the halt of the troops on the 2d to be advisable, from the want of provisions, and the fatigue they had undergone in crossing the swamp: the want of refresh-

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ment was occasioned by not getting wood with facility to cook their meat. On his cross-examination by General Whitelocke, he admitted that active preparations had been made by the general for the embarkation of the stores, &c. In answer to a question put by General Sir J. Moore, he admitted that the troops might have marched to Reduction sooner than they did, by forced marches.

On Thursday, February 11, Colonel Fraser, of the artillery at Monte Video, detailed the difficult passage of the artillery over the swamps, during which several horses were lost; and he stated, that the service could not have been performed without the assistance of 200 seamen sent from the fleet. On the 4th of July he advanced with four field-pieces to Buenos Ayres, but found them of little service, as the place was regularly fortified. Colonel Mahon commanded a detachment of the army, and he was next examined relative to the situation he occupied for the protection of the cannon passing the swamp.

On Friday, February 12, Lieutenant-Colonel Torrens, General Whitelocke's confidential secretary, was examined. His evidence was a corroboration of the preceding depositions.—Captain Whittingham said, he was sent with a flag of truce to General Liniers, to carry a letter, containing a second summons to surrender the town. When he entered the town, all hostilities were suspended. Admiral Murray admitted that every exertion was made by General Whitelocke to expedite the landing of the troops, and that some delay occurred in the disembarkation of the troops, in consequence of not finding a convenient place at first to land

On Monday, February 15, Major Roche, the officer who went into Buenos Ayres with the flag of truce, requesting the surrender, said, that General Gower sent him with a letter to the officer commanding at Buenos Ayres, couched in the following terms: "That the town, to prevent the effusion of blood, should be surrendered. That the inhabitants, civil as well as military, were to be considered as prisoners of war. That all private property should be respected and kept inviolate, and that the inhabitants should have the free exercise of their religion, and be allowed to conform to their ancient ordinances." The witness went with the flag of truce into the middle of the town before he was stopped. He was then taken by the French adjutant to General Melva, the second in command, and to him he communicated his errand. After he had read the summons for the town to surrender, the general waxed warm, and with much apparent animation said—"Go, and tell your general, we are Spaniards, and that we have spirit and courage enough left to defend our town to the last extremity."—With this he returned, for in that kind of disposition he did not think it prudent to go any further. He returned to General Gower,

who sent him with another letter on the same point, but it had no good effect. He was asked by General Moore as to the situation of the town; he said, he did not perceive any guns mounted, but on his second visit, every house was barricaded, and every male armed; that they appeared in force, and most of them were in a state of intoxication.

(To be continued.)

THE LETTER-BOX.

No. 29.

TO THE EDITOR.

'TIS even as I expected; my letters on cruelty have drawn on me the persecution of a host of sportsmen; and among the rest one Old Hawthorn, who threatens to write a pamphlet on the subject, that will absolutely annihilate all my pretensions to the art of reasoning. He tells me he has long been known in the literary world as a professed author; and, as a specimen of his abilities he sends me a copy of his rules to bad sportsmen, which (by the way) I have seen before in print; but as many of your readers may not have met with them, I forward you his copy for insertion in the Entertainer. And am, Mr. Editor,

Your most obedient,

X.

RULES FOR BAD SPORTSMEN.

Let your gun be stocked to the muzzle, and as heavy as possible; the first will prevent its easily breaking, and the latter convince your companions of your bodily strength in being able to carry it.

Observe, in particular, that the touch-hole is large enough; a large touch-hole has many advantages; in the first place, as the point of communication; and should you happen to lose your priming, a good sound knock on the other side will fill your pan in an instant. If it is apt to go off at half cock, so much the better; it saves trouble, and you are always prepared.

Let your barrel be kept as bright as possible; the rays of the sun reflected from it will dazzle the eyes of your game, and prevent their seeing you; and when placed in a conspicuous place at home, will make a much better appearance than one of your dull brown or dark blue pieces.

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Let your shooting belts be very large, and that for the shot capable of holding twenty or thirty pounds at least; it is impossible for you to define what quantity you may want; and, besides, when well filled and crossed on your breast, they will have a handsome appearance, and convince people you intend to kill something.

As to the article of dress, there are various opinions concerning it; some represent boots as absolutely necessary; I think otherwise. Get a pair of light thin pumps, with fine cotton or silk stockings; the advantages of being light about the heels are obvious; you will be able to pursue your game, jump over ditches, &c. with much greater ease than in a pair of heavy thick-soled boots; a few thorns running into your feet or legs are trifles not to be regarded by a true sportsman. The other parts of your dress are immaterial; but, at any rate, let your coat have long full skirts: this will enable you to cover your gun, and save your priming, if it rains; as to the colour—white, or a good bright crimson, is, in my opinion, preferable.

In your equipment do not forget a game-bag; as for myself, being like my good old uncle Geoffrey, a plain man, I have generally substituted a cabbage-net, or pillow-case. Let your's be strong and capacious, and capable of carrying three or four pounds of bread and cheese, with a reasonable quantity of brandy, or any other liquor you like best.

The next thing to be considered is the choice of dogs; and here again there are various opinions; however, that you may not be at a loss, I advise you to take two or three of each species with you on all occasions. Prefer those which bark most, and have the strongest tones. A few half-grown puppies will also be serviceable: they will not keep sneaking at your heels like an old dog, but, by their continued frisking and yelping, will assuredly raise all the game about you.

Some people are apt to despise that useful species of dogs, vulgarly called curs; but this is an error, for as they are generally a mixture of two or three distinct kinds, 'tis more than probable they also inherit the respective qualities of their relations or ancestors.

All I shall say on the article of shot is, that as you are uncertain what kind of game you may meet with, be prepared for all, by loading with a mixture of the different kinds, from Bristol drop to snipe shot.

Never go out 'till the sun has been up some time; this will give you an opportunity of eating a good breakfast; and the dew being off the grass will prevent your catching cold in your feet.

As you are going to the ground where you expect to meet with game, you may exercise yourself by shooting at crows,

cats, or tame fowls; this will bring your hand in, and prevent your starting at the first report of your gun, a thing not unusual to young sportsmen. You may likewise train your dogs by setting them at a flock of geese or sheep, in your way; and your water-spaniels at any pond you pass, where there are a few tame ducks.

The moment you draw your trigger be sure to shut both your eyes: this will prevent the priming from hurting them, and you can open them time enough to see where the game falls.

Always carry your piece full cocked, with the muzzle parallel with the horizon; you are then ready for any thing; and should you chance by this to lodge a few shot in your companion's breech or body, 'tis an accident so often happens to sportsmen, it will not be regarded.

Be sure to put powder enough in your gun, and let your wadding be of the thickest and strongest paper you can get; this will prevent the shot mixing with it; nor be sparing of the latter, as, from the quantity, you are the less liable to miss your object.

Ram your shot down for at least five minutes; your gun will make the better report, and the execution be more certain.

Always get the wind at your back, if possible; it will hinder the smoke from flying in your eyes, and, if the weather is dry, the dust also.

Hammer your flint well with the back of your knife after every discharge; this will give it a fine edge, and prevent your missing fire.

On coming to a bush or copse, beat it well with the muzzle of your gun, and shout lustily; this will put your dogs in spirits, and if there is any game you will be sure of putting it up.

On stopping to rest yourself, always put the muzzle of your gun under one arm; it will serve to support you, and prevent any wet or rain from getting down the barrel.

Always return home with your piece loaded; and on putting it by, be sure it is full cocked; you are then ready for the next excursion in an instant.

OLD HAWTHORN.

MR. EDITOR,

As an admirer of all kinds of puzzles, that tend to enliven a family party over a winter-evening's fire, I beg leave to send you an original charade, written by an ingenious lady, and sent to Miss ——, with the *answer* as a present; now what this *present was*, it may not be an unentertaining task for your readers to discover. At the same time, permit me to recommend

this charade as a specimen of style well worthy the imitation of your numerous correspondents.

My first is
Modern, spacious, magnifique,
Mean, diminutive, antique;
'Tis what throughout the world you'll find,
As various as the human mind;
'Tis oft by wit and genius grac'd,
By learning, elegance, and taste;
And yet condemn'd to noise and strife,
In public as in private life;
'Tis what the rich and great inherit,
Tho' oft the scene of suffering merit;
'Tis what you please, if you're to *make* it,
Not so, perchance, if you're to *take* it.
—May you, fair maid, my second prove,
Possess'd of fortune, friendship, love;
And then my first will doubtless be
Your temple of felicity.
The wise and prudent too declare,
My whole should be the matron's care;
Tho' yet your youth such cares excuse,
You oft, I ween, their *emblem* use;
Accept it, then, from one who prays
That happiness may crown your days,
And that dame fortune soon may pour
On your own head her choicest store.

Memoirs of that eccentric Character, the late Lieutenant-Colonel John Mordaunt, of the Hon. East India Company's Madras Establishment.

(Continued from Page 224.)

IT is truly wonderful, that under the consciousness of being so very deficient in this branch, and in a circle which is so eminent for superior education, such as the society in India may fairly claim to be, Mordaunt should have taken so little, if any, pains to improve himself. He surpassed in almost every thing he undertook, yet, seemingly, more by intuition, than by any study or effort to excel. This ignorance, in regard to writing, was the more remarkable, as he generally conversed with perfect propriety; often indeed with elegance of diction, and with a precise appropriation of his words to the particular occasion. He spoke the Hindoo language fluently, and was a tolerable Persian scholar; yet he could not write

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two lines of English correctly. I once had occasion to borrow a horse from him for a day or two; he sent the animal to me with the following note:

"You may kip the hos as long as you lick."

This excellence of temper, under all the jokes to which this unhappy deficiency subjected him, was wonderful. He knew his failing, and allowed it to stand as a butt for the amusement of his friends; but was highly offended at the attempt of any one, whom he did not feel a partiality for, to excite a laugh at his expence; and more than once, in my hearing, has astonished persons of that description into the most complete humility. Once, in particular, a very worthy young man of the name of James P——, who was rather of the more silly order of beings, thinking he could take the liberty of playing with, or rather upon him, in a large company called to Mordaunt, desiring him to say what was the Latin for a goose? The answer was briefly, "I don't know the *Latin* for it, but the *English* for it is *James P*——.

It should have been premised that the foregoing question was put to Mordaunt, in consequence of his having in a note, sent to a person who had offended him, required "an immediate *auser* by the bearer." The gentleman addressed, wishing to terminate the matter amicably, construed the word literally, and sent *a goose* by the bearer; stating also, that he would partake of it the next day. This, to a man of Mordaunt's kidney, was the high road to reconciliation; though to nine persons in ten, and especially to those labouring under such a desperate deficiency in point of orthography, it would have appeared highly insulting!

It may readily be supposed that Mordaunt was more ornamental than useful in General Clavering's office; however, the latter could not help esteeming him, and had he lived, would probably have effected his removal from the Madras to the Bengal army; but the general dying, no other person felt so bold, or so interested for him, as to labour at that which, though not unprecedented, was so hostile to the sentiments of the latter establishment. The Madras officers never failed to notice, sometimes indeed, in rather harsh terms the injustice of an officer being on their rolls, who never joined his regiment for nearly twenty years, and whose whole time was passed in the lap of dissipation.

Being on a party of pleasure to the northward, and near to Lucknow, the capital of Oude, and the residence of the late Nabob Vizier Asoph ul Doulah, Mordaunt, of course, had the curiosity to see both the prince and his court. The free open temper of Asoph pleased Mordaunt, whose figure and manner

made a great impression on his illustrious host. The latter was fond of hunting and shooting; to cock-fighting, indeed, he was so partial, that he has even neglected due attention to business of importance with the several residents, while engaged in a main with "his dear friend Mordaunt," who was completely skilled in that branch of barbarity.

Though I cannot say it ever appeared to me as a very faithful resemblance, yet there is sufficient of character, and some other good points in the portrait intended to represent Mordaunt, in the celebrated picture of the cock-pit, executed by Zoffani, while at the nabob's court, to give some idea of the manly, dignified, and elegant person of the subject of this memoir. He is therein represented as in the act of handing a cock, on which he bets highly, in opposition to a bird of his highness the nabob, who is pourtrayed, in a loose undress, on the opposite side of the pit.

The figures in question, however, possess some merit, from the insight they give into the open, independent, yet unassuming air of Mordaunt, and the familiar manner in which the nabob stooped to join in diversions with him, and, indeed, with every European gentleman who wished to partake of such amusements as characterised that weak, idle, and contemptible prince.

Mordaunt became such a favourite, that he was retained by the vizier at his court, in capacity of aid-de-camp, though he never attended but according to his own fancy, and then, generally, either to shoot, or to gamble with him. The various applications and sarcasms directed against Mordaunt, as an absentee from his corps for so many years, and at the distance of full two thousand miles, were alike disregarded by himself, and by the supreme government, of which all the individuals were personally attached to him. Some persons did not hesitate to assert, that he was kept by Mr. Hastings as a spy over the vizier, in consequence of the high favour and confidence the latter reposed in him; but those who could entertain such an opinion, must be in extreme error; for neither the conduct nor the disposition of Mordaunt, ever gave the smallest opening for such an inference. He was candid, free, and generous; and, I think, he would have abruptly revolted at any commission which might impose it, either directly, or circuitously, as a duty on him, to betray the secrets of the man who treated him with kindness and with respect!

Mordaunt was in the receipt of a handsome salary, and possessed many distinguished privileges under the patronage of the vizier; who often used to refer Europeans to him on occasions requiring his advice; though now and then he used to have recourse to the same excuse when he did not wish to comply.

ply. On every such occasion Mordaunt was friendly, and on some rendered great service. Of this I shall quote instances.

Mr. Zoffani, in a humorous moment, had painted the nabob at full length, but in high caricature. The picture being at Colonel Martine's, where old Zoffani resided, and the colonel's house being frequented by immense numbers of the natives, especially of those who, when the nabob wanted money, took his jewels to the colonel's to be pledged, it was not long before the prince was informed of the joke. In the first moments of irritation, he was disposed to make the painter a head shorter, and to dismiss the colonel, who was his chief engineer, and had the charge of his arsenal; but, as nothing could be done without his "dear friend Mordaunt," a message was dispatched requiring his immediate attendance, "on matters of the utmost importance." This being a very stale mode of summoning Mordaunt, who would attend, or rather visit, only when it pleased himself, would have probably been disregarded, had not the messenger stated that the nabob was incensed against Martine and Zoffani.

Mordaunt found the nabob foaming with rage, and about to proceed with a host of rabble attendants to the colonel's; however, he got the story out of the nabob as well as he could, and argued him into a state of calmness, sufficient to let his purpose be suspended until the next day. So soon as could be done with safety, Mordaunt retired; and, as privately as possible, sent a note to Zoffani, with intelligence of the intended visit.

No time was lost, and the laughable caricature was in a few hours changed, by the magic pencil of Zoffani, into a superb portrait, highly ornamented, and so inimitably resemblant of the vizier, that it has been preferred to all which have been taken at sittings. The vizier did not fail to come, his mind full of anxiety for the honour of his dignified person, attended by Mordaunt, whose feelings for his friend's fate were speedily dissipated, when, on entering the portrait-chamber, the picture in question shone forth so superbly, as to astonish the vizier, and to sully even the splendour which his whole equipage displayed on the occasion.

Asoph was delighted, hurried the picture home, gave Zoffani ten thousand rupees for it, and ordered the person who had informed him of the supposed caricature, to have his nose and ears cut off. Mordaunt, however, was equally successful in obtaining the poor fellow's pardon; and as the nabob would not detain him as a servant, very generously made him one of his own pensioners.

(To be continued.)

Account

Account of a Voyage to the Western Coast of Africa; performed by his Majesty's Sloop Favourite, in the Year 1805.

(Continued from Page 231.)

I must now continue my narrative from the Trio cartel. The French commodore gave us five days provision for 160 men to go to Sierra Leone. Besides the Favourite's crew, there were the Trio's, and Robert's of Liverpool; Hero's of Glasgow; Flora's from London; and Belle's from Greenock. From the calms about the Banana and Turtle Islands, we were detained eight days, and of course short of provision and water.

January 24th. Cape Mount bore E. S. E. distant five leagues. At five P. M. the commodore ordered all the British subjects into the Trio. We weighed and made sail the wind W. S. W. to N. E. fine clear weather.

January 25th. Some of the sailors belonging to the merchantmen became mutinous; supposing, as they were in a cartel, no one had any command over them; the consequence was, that all hands were called, the captain read the articles of war to them, pointed out the ill consequences of want of order and regulation, and the necessity of subordination; otherwise the navigation of this small vessel, with so many men, would be dangerous, as the passage was long and tedious to England. He then impressed on each of the backs of the mutineers three sound dozen each, after which they were perfectly obedient to order.

January 27th. Wind variable, lat 7° 30′. Light airs occasionally, and lying at anchor during part of the time. On mustering the company, we found in all 160 of us, officers included.

January 28th. Wind W. N. W. to N. N. W. land extending from N. E. to E. N. E. lat. 7° 46′ N. We anchored off Saint Anne's. At six A. M. weighed, but were obliged to be towed by our boats.

January 29th, 30th, 31st. Wind W. N. W. to N. N. E. lat. as yesterday. Extreme of land N. E. seven or eight miles. Weighed and anchored, the Turtle Islands in sight.

Saturday, February 1st. Fearing the wind would fail, I was sent in the jolly-boat from the False Cape to Sierra Leone, with a letter to the governor to inform him of the loss of the Favourite. A breeze springing up, she arrived there before me, but could not get ashore until I had delivered the letter. We found at anchor here, the Anderson, who fired an evening gun, which made us mistake her for a man of war. The whole of the inhabitants were extremely sorry for us; I gave the men something to drink, and then delivered my letter; on which the governor politely asked me to his table. While I staid there,

the brig came to an anchor off Free-town: and then the captain came on shore, and we all supped at Mrs. Small's, by whom we were most kindly treated, which was the more acceptable, as for some time we had been on short allowance.

Monday, February 3d. Light breezes and cloudy, wind still variable. Went on board the Anderson, and saw a Chimpanzee; his face is bald, as are his hands and feet; his arms are very long, and when he walks on all fours, he appears like the well-known beggar in London who has lost both his legs; his body is covered with long black hair, and he is continually clinging round any one who notices him. At night, when any of the female slaves leave a part of their clothes about, he hunts for them to make his bed. This was the first time I had been on board of a slave ship; but I must declare, that the slaves all appeared happy; she was in excellent order, which redounded to the honour of the captain. There were also on board a young alligator, two porcupines, and a crown-bird. Captain D—— sent for a small slave boy, named John Favourite, which was given him by a gentleman of Rio Pongos; but the captain of the slave ship declared he would keep him for himself. When we were taken, the second captain of the Regulus thought of keeping the boy, and had his ears bored, put a necklace on him, and had a bed made up for him in his cabin; but the commander insisted on his returning him: not so with our wine. They took of private property from the captain, two pipes of port, and several of madeira; from myself a quarter cask, and another from the first and second lieutenants, but had the generosity to restore the captain six bottles.

Tuesday, February 4th. Early in the morning I set off with Captain Davie and the gentlemen of Bance's Island in their barge to that place. As we were rather late for the tide, we stopped at Tasso Island; there I saw another alligator rather longer than the one before spoken of, and a large species of eagle. This island is covered with cotton, palms, and pine apples. A great number of the slaves here had ulcerated legs, as well as the craw-craws. I saw a small thin girl, not more than twelve years of age, who had a very fine young child; there I also saw a beautiful little animal of the deer kind. It is common here, though Mr. Brown, the governor of Bance's Island, has prohibited their being shot. We refreshed ourselves with some bread, cheese, and porter, and then crossed over to Bance's Island; which, though very small, has a most delightful appearance at a little distance; it resembles a strong fort; they have a good battery, and the buildings are large and commodious, with a gallery to walk all round. The public dining-room where they all meet, is of a considerable size. The present slave-yard is ill adapted, and the houses are mean and dirty, but there is a new one building on a new plan. The town

is

is large in proportion to the island, and every thing is conducted in the most orderly manner; they have a furnace here for heating shot red hot, but there is one practice which must be considered as very obnoxious; I mean the burying of the dead on so small an island. I could discover an offensive effluvium from the burying grounds. It is to be hoped, that the governor or the merchants, to whom this duty belongs, will, for the future, order the bodies at Goree, to be sent to the continent or Tasso, and not endanger the lives of such a number of persons by so shocking a custom.

Every gentleman here has his black wife, and the usual mode of marrying is as follows: When a girl is marriageable, the mother looks out for a husband, who, if approved of, must send the following articles, viz. one fathom of cloth, a jar containing three gallons of spirits, and four or six hands of tobacco; they then bring the girl, and she pulls off her ping or boddice, puts on the cloth, and that moment commences a woman.

Near this island is another, named Bob's Island. To this place all the widows are removed, where they are taken great care of, and provided with every requisite of life. It may therefore be more properly termed Widow's Island. In the rainy season, there are always a large quantity of alligators among these islands; and at a boat-house, close to the fort, on Bance's Island, one came and took away a black boy in presence of a number of persons, who could render him no assistance. On the first fall of his upper-jaw, the blood gushed out at the boy's nose, mouth, and eyes. The one I saw at Tasso, would make a spring at a stick, and if he missed it, his jaws gave a loud snap. The teeth are extremely sharp and pointed, and stand at some distance from each other. The captain held a stick to him with a brass ferule, which he marked with his teeth, and shook violently.

Every night the native men begin their dances, which are very laborious; they take hold of hands and dance about to the sound of their drum; while each pair, alternately, throw their right and left leg over the other, and when this is done, they then throw over the left and right. Another dance is something like that in Goree; they have also an obscene dance, from the description of which no satisfaction could be derived. These people, all of whose dress consists of a small piece of cloth round the waist, are very saving, and often return to their own country with great riches, but their king generally compels them to make over to him the best part, and if they hide it, and will not confess where, they are roasted over a slow fire. They carry their dead on a bier, with a fine piece of cloth or chintz over it. When they come to the ground they make a halt, place it in the earth head downward in a perpendicular direc-

tion, and then fill up the ground with stones, over which they place half of the canoe belonging to the deceased.

(To be continued.)

REFLECTION.

A Man can hardly do any thing better calculated to promote his own happiness than carefully to preserve an evenness of temper. The man whose temper is ruffled by every trifle must be unhappy. Daily and hourly will he meet with circumstances to irritate and torment him.

SPITAL-FIELDS WEAVERS.

PERSONS who have passed through those parts of Spital-fields chiefly inhabited by weavers must have often heard them singing at their looms. Singular as it may seem, this practice came with their forefathers from the Low Countries; and was also the case with such of the protestants as, at an earlier period, came over into England from Flanders, and brought with them the woollen manufactory. To this custom of their's Falstaff alludes: "I would I were a weaver; I could sing psalms, and all manner of songs."—Henry IV. Part i. Act 2. And Ben Jonson, in the Silent Woman, has another allusion, act iii. scene 4: "He got this cold with sitting up late, and singing catches with the cloth-workers."

Answer, by A. Morcom, of North Downs, near Redruth, to the Question, inserted December 21.

BY problem 5, in page 294 of Dr. Hutton's Mensuration, we are informed, that 9-64ths of the difference of the cubes of the external and internal diameter give the weight of the shell, which difference, in the present case, is 817.768, which × by 9, and ÷ by 64, gives 114.998 lbs. for the weight of the shell.

By the same treatise we are informed, that the cube of the internal diameter, divided by 57.3 gives the quantity of powder required to fill the shell, which gives, for the answer of the present question, 6,51 lbs.—Q. E. D.

☞ Similar answers have been received from G. Harvey, jun. and L. A. Hart, of Plymouth; T. Petherbridge; Triangularius, of Evershot-school; J. Whitnell, of Street; W. Backhouse, of Evercreech; and P. Nimmis, of Tavistock.

Answer, by J. Melhuish, of Bridgewater, to Betty's Charade, inserted February 1.

DEAR Betty, when to you I send,
The LETTER-BOX will prove my friend.

§‡§ A similar answer has been received from G. A. F. Arden, and S. D. of South Petherton; W. D. Champion, and John Trood, of Bridgewater; J. A Dyer, of Taunton; a fifer of the South Devon militia; Alphonso, of St. Austell; R. Loosemore, Tiverton; and J. Woodman, of North Curry.

Answer, by W. Buckland, of Blandford, to J. A. Dyer"s Charade, inserted the 1st of February.

THERE is no doubt but you and I
Have seen the curious BU TERFLY.

† Similar answers have been received from J. Trood, J. Melhuish, and W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; G. Spry, of Egg Buckland; W. Woon, of Grampound; G. A. F. Arden, and S. D. of South Petherton; a fifer of the South Devon militia; J. Colley, of St. German's; Alphonso, of St Austell; J. Woodman, of North Curry; J. Osborn, of Exeter; J. Vellenoweth, near Helston; J. Whitnell, of Street; J. Thomas, of St. Agnes; R. Loosemore, of Tiverton; W. Kent, of Camelford; W. Newton; H Lucas, of Lyme Regis; J. Tucker, of Ottery Barracks; Verdurina, of Wendron; J. Horsey, and S. Paull, of Castle Cary; and R. Withiell, of Plymouth.

A CHARADE, *by J. Tucker, of Ottery Barracks.*

A Blow will be my first transpos'd;
To cut or clip must be disclos'd;
When this is done, combine them right,
A well-known root will come in sight.

A REBUS, *by J. Melhuish, of Bridgewater.*

THE vast expanse first name where Britain's arms
Have fill'd the world with terror and alarms;
To find my second I would have you seek
Amidst the wonders of the briny deep;
My last is got by labour and much pain,
And from its owners stol'n by man for gain:
My whole, ye bards, of use to me doth prove
When, in soft terms, I write my distant love.

A REBUS, *by R. Trewavas, of Mousehole.*

A Heav'nly messenger you'll first unfold,
On heathen records trac'd, dear gents of old;
A rival warrior next you'll bring to light,
Who dar'd Æneas to unequal fight;
That gallant youth you thirdly will explore
Who with the hero left the Dardan shore;
The aged king of Latium next declare,
Who to the Phrygian gave Lavinia fair;
A fam'd freeholder lastly make appear,
And join him quickly to complete my rear;
Th' initials frame, 'tis where the godlike boy
Landed, an exile from ill fated Troy.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The RISING SUN.

THOU radiant orb of fountain light!
On thee I gaze with rapt'rous eye
When thou arisest in thy might
To run the circuit of the sky.

At sight of thee the flow'rs again
Their eve-clos'd petals all unfold;
A lovely and enchanting train,
Or dipp'd in purple, white, or gold.

Such are the beams of the bright sun of truth,
In the gay morn of all-ingenuous youth,
Transcendently benign!
But soon, how soon! the vexing cares of life,
In all their rage let loose their gloomy strife,
Nor suffer them to shine!

Trent. B. AYRES.

PITT *and* FOX.

By WALTER SCOTT, *Esq. Advocate.*

WITH more than mortal powers endow'd,
How high they soar'd above the crowd!
Their's was no common party race,
Jostling by dark intrigue for place;
Like fabled gods, their mighty war
Shook realms and nations in its jar;
Beneath each banner proud to stand,
Look'd up the noblest of the land.
'Till thro' the British world were known
The names of Pitt and Fox alone
Spells of such force no wizard grave
E'er fram'd in dark Thessalian cave,
Tho' his could drain the ocean dry,
And force the planets from the sky.
These spells are spent, and, spent with these,
The wine of life is on the lees.
Genius, and taste, and talent gone,
For ever tomb'd beneath the stone,
Where, taming thought to human pride!
The mighty chiefs sleep side by side.
Drop upon Fox's grave the tear,
'Twill trickle to his rival's bier;
O'er Pitt's the mournful requiem sound,
And Fox's shall the notes rebound.
The solemn echo seems to cry,
"Here let their discord with them die;
Speak not for those a separate doom,
Whom fate made brethren in the tomb,
But search the land of living men,
Where wilt thou find their like again?"

Rest

Rest, ardent spirits! till the cries
Of dying nature bid you rise,
Not even your Britain's groans can pierce
The leaden silence of your hearse;
Then, Oh! how impotent and vain
This grateful tributary strain;
Tho' not unmark'd from northern clime,
Ye heard the border minstrel's rhyme;
His Gothic harp has o'er you rung;
The bard you deign'd to praise your deathless names has sung.

ODE ADDRESSED TO HIS LYRE.

By H. K. White.

THOU simple lyre, thy music wild
Has serv'd to charm the weary hour;
And many a lonely night has guil'd,
When even pain has own'd, and smil'd,
Its fascinating power.

Yet, Oh my lyre! the busy crowd
Will little heed thy simple tones;
Them mightier minstrels harping loud
Engross; and thou and I must shroud
Where dark oblivion thrones.

No hand thy diapason o'er
Well skill'd I throw with sweep sublime;
For me no academic lore
Has taught the solemn strain to pour,
Or build the polish'd rhyme.

Yet dear to me the wreath of bay,
Perhaps from me debarr'd,
And dear to me the classic zone
Which, snatch'd from learning's labour'd throne,
Adorns the accepted bard.

And Oh! if yet 'twere mine to dwell
Where Cam or Isis winds along,
Perchance, inspir'd with ardour chaste,
I yet might call the ear of taste
To listen to my song.

Oh then! my little friend, thy style
I'd change to happier lays!
Oh then the cloister'd dome should smile,
And thro' the long, the fretted aisle,
Should swell the note of praise.

MODERN IMPROVEMENTS.

OH rare invention! to thy skill we owe
Refinements our rough fathers did not know.
Contrivance lumbers up our rooms with means
To save all work, but working its machines.
Engines to cut our cucumbers with ease,
And scoops to hollow out a Stilton cheese;
A screw and lever, that shall gently work
To draw the mighty matter of a cork;
Grates, that shall all the cook'ry arts perform,
With scarcely fire enough to keep us warm;
And Rumford stoves, so costly and so neat,
To stew us well, in sulphur, dust, and heat.